

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application No.: 09/831,861

Applicant: K. Hara et al. Filed: August 6, 2001 TC/A.U. 3727 Examiner J. Moy

Docket No. KIN48USA Customer No. 00270

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(PATENT)

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Date: November 14, 2003

AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP RCE Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Official action of August 18, 2003, and is accompanied by a request for continued examination and the required fee.

Please amend the claims in accordance with the listing of claims beginning on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 6.

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